

BARRE DAILY TIMES

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O, for a backbone for poor old Russia!

We should like to see the "movie" film of that American colonel capturing that Prussian lieutenant.

There is still a small slice of New Hampshire that has not been bought up by the United States government.

The Rumanians would do well not to take the "arm" out of their armistice with Germany. There's the Russian experience to tell them why.

La Follette stands before the nation, condemned by his own state legislature. Not often does such a humiliation come to a member of the United States Senate.

After getting himself elected mayor of New York, Hyman went off to Florida and spent an "extended" vacation. The election as the head of the greatest city in the United States was a mere incident, perhaps.

A Malden, Mass., girl longs for a chance to serve as an aviator for the Americans in France and she would like to shoot a few Germans. P. S. We almost forgot to say that she got her picture in the paper for having such longings.

Burlington will no doubt be so spotless the coming year that Barre and Rutland visitors will feel like a fish out of water. —Burlington News.

Speaking for Barre alone, we hope it won't be like a fish in a sea of illegal rum.

The old Vermont National Guard is going through its baptism of fire on the French front, many members of that organization, which saw service on the Mexican border in 1916, having received wounds from German weapons during the past few weeks. They are wounds of honor.

The little town of Westmore is certainly hard hit, with a tax rate of \$3.45 on the dollar of the grand list. If Westmore should commercialize the splendid scenic advantages of its Lake Willoughby region, it might be able in a short time to cut down that excessive tax rate considerably.

Perhaps out of the present tangled situation among the entente allies regarding Japanese entry into Siberia, we may learn why Japan has been leashed during the three years that that nation has been normally in the war against Germany. A whole lot of fighting power has been going to waste for some reason.

After several days of anxious waiting, it has been ascertained that the town of Somerset, Windham county, reversed its local option policy and voted this year against the licensed saloon; and it was a remarkable reversal, too, because the vote stood 1 yes to 9 no, against 7 yes and 2 no last year. More interesting still is the addition of one vote to Somerset's total.

That which is happening to Newport, R. I., may happen to Winooski, the only place within a radius of five miles of Fort Ethan Allen, in which liquor is sold according to law. The navy department has taken action in the case of Newport by ordering the saloons closed. The army department may follow suit in the case of Fort Ethan Allen, at least during the period of the war.

A Boston man has invented a gun which is said to fire 33,000 shots a minute. Thus the inventive genius is turned toward reducing labor in war as in peace pursuits. When the new machine is put into practical operation (if ever it is), two or three men will constitute a whole division and a few more men will make a whole army. Labor-saving devices are likely to throw soldiers out of employ-



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ment until eventually a war will be chiefly a battle of machines, actual machines. That is, of course, a rather far-fetched conclusion to make, but the trend of invention is undoubtedly toward the elimination of the human element as much as possible. The machine gun was about a half-way step between the single soldier with the single rifle and the proposed new equipment which delivers 33,000 shots in the space of a single minute.

The death rate from pneumonia in the army camps in the United States is going down constantly, the ratio being now down to the level of last November. It is evident that the soldiers, most of whom came from indoor occupations, are becoming acclimatized along with the other transformation, which will make soldiers out of them. The next few weeks ought to see the menace of pneumonia nearly eliminated in the camps of all climates.

With the usual advance press notice, a certain automobile manufacturing concern tells the world that it is about to begin the construction of "fliver" tanks, the same to be built just as soon as plans are accepted and just as soon as other arrangements can be made and, possibly, just as soon as the thing is sufficiently advertised. It is a pity that we Americans cannot keep some of our war plans to our individual selves until such time as the machines are accepted by the government and actually put into service. So far as the world knew, Great Britain had taken no steps to put its monster tanks in the field; but just as soon as the tanks were completed and ready for service they were sent against the Germans, who were entirely unprepared for them. There was no advance press agenting of the British tanks; and the tanks turned out to be a great surprise to the enemy, doing remarkably effective work. It would be well for the individual manufacturers in the United States to keep some of their plans to themselves until the work is completed. Be it said to the credit of the officials of the United States government that a measure of secrecy is being maintained. A similar mantle ought to settle over some of the manufacturers.

TAKING OVER THE FRONT LINE.

The American expeditionary forces are now and then taking over new sectors on the long front running from the North sea to the Swiss mountains, and it is notable that they are being placed only in the part of the front which is occupied by French troops. That represents the fitness of things for several reasons, one of which is that the French man-power is much more reduced than is the British and another of which is that the Americans owe a far greater debt of gratitude to France than they do to Great Britain, although Great Britain and the United States are far more closely related in most other considerations. Still another reason is that the French capital is far more seriously menaced than is the British capital. And a further reason is that the part of the front held by the French is much nearer to German territory and, therefore, much better located for the beginning of a drive against Hindenburg. Nearly every reason stands strongly for the placing of the American forces on the French end of the line, and so we may expect to see the movement continued until such time as the expeditionary force will be sufficient to fill in the interstices between the present sectors held by them and thus constitute a solid line of Americans. To save France from the fate of Russia, a fate which might be imminent though the French maintain stout hearts, is the present duty of the United States.

CURRENT COMMENT

Washington County Progressive.

The voters of Washington county have set an example of progressiveness before the people of Vermont in voting in favor of a tuberculosis sanatorium, being the first county in the state to do so under the new law. Every considerable county in Vermont should do this very thing. It has been said that "one war at a time is enough," but one of the best ways to fight the war is to continue unremittently the attack on the white plague and eliminate it from every civilized community. —Rutland News.

A Good Start Made.

The newly-organized New England Fruit Growers' exchange proves to be, as the Union had hoped, a genuine, all-New England assembly. According to a long-felt requirement, namely, a co-operative body through which New England fruit raisers can market their products at least on even terms of competition with western fruit. Given this favorable condition, the superiority of New England fruit can be trusted to win its just place of leadership in the competition. That which we said in these columns yesterday we repeat today: organization has given western fruit a prestige which belongs of right to New England fruit in so far as fruit produced in this section of the country is in competition with that produced in the west. Apples and peaches, in particular, can produce to the envy of any other fruit section in the United States. The flavor of these New England fruits is unexcelled by any and equaled by mighty few. The one thing needed is an aggressive and persistent campaign in behalf of New England fruit.

This New England Fruit Growers' exchange should, and undoubtedly will, launch in the near future. New Hampshire, well represented as she is in the organization, can do much along that line. Orchardists of this state, in co-operation with those of the other five states included in the exchange, can bring about better facilities for producing their fruit, for grading and packing it, for shipping it, and for opening up new markets for it. The outlook is bright for a genuine boom in New England fruit. The boom depends on the men behind it. Now let them show their mettle. —Manchester Union.



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Special
for this week, a good heavy cotton sweater for \$1.95. sizes 38 to 46.

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LIKE UNTO BELGIUM

Is Description of War As Printed Back In 1832.

Editor, Barre Times:
In looking over an old book I saw this piece printed in 1832. It reminds of the little country Belgium.

Marshfield, Vt. A Subscriber.

War.

They have rushed through like a hurricane; like an army of locusts they have devoured the earth; the war has fallen like a water spout, and deluged the land with blood. The smoke rises not through the trees, for the honors of the grove are fallen; and the hearth of the cottage is cold; but it rises from villages, burned with fire, and from warm ruins, spread over the now naked plain.

The ear is filled with the confused bellowing of oxen, and sad bleating of over-driven sheep; they are swept from their peaceful plains; with shouting and goading are they driven away; the peasant folds his arms, and resigns his faithful fellow-laborers. The farmer weeps over his barns, consumed by fire, and his demolished roof, and anticipates the driving of the winter snows.

On that rising ground, where the green turf looks black with fire, yesterday stood a noble mansion; the owner had said in his heart, here will I spend the evening of my days, and enjoy the fruit of my years of toil; my name shall descend with mine inheritance, and my children's children shall sport under the trees which I have planted. The fruit of his years of toil, is swept away in a moment—wasted, not enjoyed; and the evening of his days is left desolate. The temples are profaned; the soldier's curse resounds in the house of God; the marble pavement is trampled

by iron hoofs; horses neigh beside the altar. Law and order are forgotten; violence and rapine are abroad; the golden cords of society are loosed. Here are the shrieks of woe and the cry of anguish; and there is suppressed indignation, bursting the heart with silent despair. The groans of the wounded are in the hospitals, and by the road side, and in every thicket; and the housewife's web, whiter than snow, is scarcely sufficient to stanch the blood of her husband and children. Look at that youth, the first-born of her strength; yesterday he bounded as the roebuck; was glowing as the summer fruits; active in sports, strong to labor; he has passed in one moment from youth to age; his comeliness is departed; helplessness is his portion for the days of future years. He is more decrepit than his grandfathers, on whose head are the snows of eighty winters; but those were the snows of nature; this is the desolation of man.

Everything unholy and unclean comes abroad from its lurking-place, and deeds of darkness are done beneath the eye of day. The villages no longer start at horrible sights; the soothing rites of burial are denied, and human bones are tossed by human hands. No one cares for another; every one, hardened by misery, cares for himself alone. Lo, these are what God has set before thee; child of reason! unto which does thine heart incline?

EAST BROOKFIELD

Don't forget the date, March 9. Red Cross sociable in church parlors. Conservation supper, 9c. Interesting program of 19 numbers will be given. Everyone come and do your bit. Gentlemen, don't forget your quart of beans to be sold for the benefit of the Red Cross.

Any Sickness Leaves Weakness

Even a simple cold strips and reduces your resistive powers to allow other sickness. Only food—not alcohol or drugs—creates the rich blood which distributes strength to the body, and the concentrated medicinal food is.

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Scott & Bowne, Bloomfield, N. Y.

EAST BARRE

Mr. and Mrs. J. Whitcomb Surprised on 15th Anniversary.

One of the most enjoyable events that East Barre has experienced this season occurred when over 120 guests assembled in opera hall Wednesday evening and tendered a surprise party in honor of the 15th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. J. Whitcomb.

A burlesque wedding ceremony in the darkey dialect and costume was given as follows: Minister, A. C. Dickey; bride, Mrs. Avery; groom, C. S. Cooney; maid of honor, Mrs. J. B. Doyle; best man, Forrest Bellows; flower girl, Catherine Hagan; ring-bearer, H. A. McAllister; train-bearers, Mrs. Cooney and Mrs. Leonard; ushers, Paul Snow and Archie Cram; bridesmaids, Julia Hagan and Emma Cooney; ribbon girls, Mamie Hagan and Mrs. Snow; groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Salter; bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Rock; pianist, Mrs. Bellows; tambourine, Mrs. Cram. During the ceremony a Charlie Chaplin and Arbuckle skit was introduced by J. B. Doyle and Dr. Avery. This affair was a scream from start to finish.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitcomb were invited to attend a "Red Men's time" at the hall and had no inkling of the personal nature of the affair until their names were called in the burlesque wedding ceremony. They were presented several handsome pieces of cut glass and other gifts. The rest of the evening was spent with games and dancing. Light refreshments were served.

The committee in charge of the affair was Messrs. Rock, Bellows, and Lowry and Mrs. Cooney, Julia Hagan and Mrs. Avery.

WILLIAMSTOWN

Cards are received in town announcing the marriage of Miss Erma Adele Passera of Montpelier to Walter W. Russell of Brooklyn, N. Y. They were married in Montpelier on Saturday, March 2. The bride has been a resident of this village till within a few months, and was graduated from the high school in the class of 1916. The following year she graduated from the Albany Business college. After the death of her father, the late Charles Passera, she went to Springfield with her mother and brother, Charles, an older brother, Louis, having been employed there for some time. For a little time past, she has been in the family of her oldest brother, Peter F. Passera, of Montpelier. Mr. and Mrs. Russell will be at home in Brooklyn, N. Y., after March 15.

A short time ago The Times published a list of those pupils of the village school who were now in the service of the United States. We now give the remainder of those in service from this town from memoranda handed in by the secretary of the grange, Mrs. Martha Wales. Very likely this list is not yet complete: Norman Blake, Frank Brockway, Dr. Albin A. Cross, John Greenleaf, Walter Loo, Almon Loo, Angus McLean, Elliot Pirie, John B. Smith, Henry St. Pierre, Willard Theriault and two brothers, Ora Whitford, Aura Whitney, Kenneth Little, George LaPoint, Fred McAulay, Roy McClood.

As under the present law the school directors elected in March do not assume the duties of their office till the beginning of the school year at the first of July, the resignation of Jesse A. Martin, who was appointed by the selectmen to fill out the term of Mrs. Elta M. Covert, resigned, leaves a vacancy, which will probably be filled by the appointment of Walter M. Williams, who was elected for one year at town meeting.

Peter F. Passera and sister, Miss Dorea R. Passera, of Montpelier were in town the 6th, on business connected with the estate of Charles Passera.

Congregational church—Morning worship at 10:45. Sermon theme, "Going Up to Jerusalem." Sunday school at noon. Union service at 7:30 p. m. C. E. meeting on Tuesday evening at 7:30; topic, "Making the Most of Ourselves."

Warning is posted for a special meeting of the voters of the first district in their hall on Tuesday evening, March 19. The man who was last elected fire chief is now out of town and several other members of the company are gone for one reason or another and so it is thought best to begin anew and effect a new organization. The object of the meeting is to see if the district will organize a fire company and pay them for their services and to do any other business that may be proper. The meeting is called by the members of the prudential committee, C. M. Seaver, F. A. Downs and Leon McAllister.

Mrs. William N. Roberts was in Westminister last week, her mission being to accompany Raymond Martin to the Kurn Hattin home in that town. Miss Roberts spent some time at the home and was pleased with the place and the way in which it was conducted. On her way home she visited Dr. and Mrs. E. B. Watson at Alstead, N. H., and found the very pleasant situation and glad to welcome any friends from Vermont.

There is to be an auction at the Stearns farm on south hill next Tuesday, March 12, at 12:30 p. m., the owner C. D. Stearns, having bought a small farm at Vineland, N. J., where he is to engage in truck-farming. The sale includes several registered Ayrshires, some Holsteins and Jerseys and 14 grade cows, besides farming tools, produce and wood. Several hogs are also to be sold. B. F. Adams of Chelsea is to be the auctioneer.

The local merchants have been out of white sugar for several days, but fortunately received some brown sugar and are selling that on the cards the same as they would white.

One year ago the town voted to use the Australian ballot in electing town officers. This year they voted to rescind the vote of a year ago and then kept on and finished up the work of the day as if the vote of a year ago still stood. Some hold that if the vote of 1917 is rescinded that the whole election of this year becomes invalid, because the vote on which its action was based was no longer in effect. Others hold that after a year it is not possible to rescind a vote. Who knows? Do you? The whole discussion would have been impossible if the article in the warning had read, "To see if the town will vote to return to the old method of electing its officers after this meeting." Not one man in ten has a clear idea of the meaning of either of the terms rescind or reconsider. Isn't that so? Remember that special town meeting we had last summer when the words were both in the warning and the town did not dare to do anything but adjourn and go home. How about it? Methodist church—Divine worship next Lord's day. Morning service begins at 10:45. Sunday school at noon. Union service in Congregational church. Prayer meeting on Thursday evening. The finance committee of the Methodist church met last Monday evening and planned the annual every-member canvass. The canvass will be made on Tuesday afternoon, March 12, and in the evening all members and friends of the society are invited to the church vestry, where supper will be served, reports heard, and a social hour enjoyed.



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